

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please delete the paragraph (or section) beginning at page 15, line 10 and ending at page 15, line 12.

Please delete the paragraph (or section) beginning at page 15, line 13 and ending at page 15, line 15.

Please replace the paragraph (or section) beginning at page 15, line 16, with the following redlined paragraph (or section):

Figure 2024 is a graph showing measurement results of the C/N ratio of a signal obtained by reproducing data recorded in each of an optical recording medium sample #3-1, an optical recording medium comparative sample #1, an optical recording medium comparative sample #2 and an optical recording medium comparative sample #3.

Please replace the paragraph (or section) beginning at page 15, line 21, with the following redlined paragraph (or section):

Figure 2122 is a graph showing measurement results of clock jitter of a signal obtained by reproducing data recorded in each of an optical recording medium sample #3-1, an optical recording medium comparative sample #1, an optical recording medium comparative sample #2 and an optical recording medium comparative sample #3.

Please replace the paragraph (or section) beginning at page 52, line 6, with the following redlined paragraph (or section):

As shown in Figure 19, it was found that the refractive index  $n$  of the sample #2-1 including the dielectric layer containing TiO<sub>2</sub> as a primary component but no nitrogen as an additive did not greatly change even if the wavelength of the laser beam became shorter, while the refractive index  $n$  of the sample #2-3 including the dielectric layer containing TiO<sub>2</sub> as a primary component and 2.9 atomic % of nitrogen as an additive increased as the wavelength of

the laser beam became shorter and the refractive index  $n$  thereof was very large with respect to the laser beam in blue wavelength band.

Please replace the paragraph (or section) beginning at page 52, line 15, with the following redlined paragraph (or section):

Further, as shown in Figure 20, it was found that both the extinction coefficient  $k$  of the sample #2-1 including the dielectric layer containing TiO<sub>2</sub> as a primary component but no nitrogen as an additive and the extinction coefficient  $k$  of the sample #2-3 including the dielectric layer containing TiO<sub>2</sub> as a primary component and 2.9 atomic % of nitrogen as an additive increased as the wavelength of the laser beam became shorter and that the extinction coefficient  $k$  of the sample #2-1 was larger than that of the sample #2-3 irrespective of the wavelength of the laser beam.

Please replace the paragraph (or section) beginning at page 56, line 11, with the following redlined paragraph (or section):

The results of the measurement are shown in Figure 1924.

Please replace the paragraph (or section) beginning at page 57, line 3, with the following redlined paragraph (or section):

The results of the measurement are shown in Figure 2022.

Please replace the paragraph (or section) beginning at page 57, line 14, with the following redlined paragraph (or section):

As shown in Figure 2022 and Table 3, it was found that the clock jitter of the signal obtained by reproducing data recorded in the optical recording medium sample #3-1 was lowest.